

BIOLOGY OF BENTONITE

by

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September 7, 1960

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SUMMARY

Smoking cigarettes containing bentonite probably will not constitute any more of a health hazard than does present day smoking of non-bentonite containing cigarettes. This statement is based upon the fact that analysis of smoke from bentonite containing cigarettes does not contain any more materials traceable to the bentonite than does smoke from controls. Bentonite is, moreover, used in certain medical preparations and procedures. A health hazard does exist when bentonite is chronically ingested in the diet at a level greater than 1/2 per cent of the diet. Breathing air heavily laden with bentonite dust constitutes another type of health hazard.

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